

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 206

By Farmer

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Dustin Helton, the
2020–2021 Sevier County School District
Secondary Grades Teacher of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Dustin Helton is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished himself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, a teacher at Pigeon Forge High School, Mr. Helton was recently named the 2020–2021 Sevier County School District Secondary Grades Teacher of the Year, a most befitting honor for his tenure as an educator, as it recognizes the positive influence he has on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, this is not the first time in his six-year tenure as an educator that he has received such an honor; this is the third consecutive year that he has been named Teacher of the Year for Pigeon Forge High School; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Helton began his career as a substitute and interim teacher in 2014; he came on board at Pigeon Forge High School the following year, and since that time, he has been a social studies course instructor of government/civics, history, geography, and Statewide Dual Credit sociology; and

WHEREAS, a leader in his field, Dustin Helton has served on the board of directors of the Tennessee Council for the Social Studies and as a consultant for the Tennessee Secretary of State's Office: Civic Education and Advisory Committee; he currently serves as the blended learning educator mentor and social studies department chair at Pigeon Forge High School; and

WHEREAS, he is also a leader in his community, having served as a Smoky Mountain Young Life Student Ministry volunteer leader and committee member, a tnAchieves Tennessee College preparatory mentor, Sevier County's Leadership Tomorrow Class of 2020 ambassador, and a Sevier County Local Government Bodies active attendee, often bringing students along to those meetings; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Helton received his bachelor's degree in social sciences education from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga in 2014 and holds active teaching endorsements in history, geography, government, sociology, and middle grades (4-8); and;

WHEREAS, Dustin Helton is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who has worked assiduously throughout his career in education to motivate his students, fellow teachers, and staff to reach their full potential as scholars, professionals, and citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Helton truly serves as an inspiration to the faculty and staff at Pigeon Forge High School, and his friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know him; and

WHEREAS, Dustin Helton epitomizes the dedicated educator who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Dustin Helton on being chosen as the 2020–2021 Sevier County School District Secondary Grades Teacher of the Year, commend his exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute his professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to

the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.